

Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee  
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes  
March 7, 2008

The Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on Friday, March 7, 2008 from 12:00 noon until 2:30 p.m.

1. Members present. Mary Beth Bonaventura, Deborah Domine, Mary Harper, Marilyn Moores, Pete Nemeth, Loretta Rush, Frank Sullivan, Lynn Murray, acting Chair.
2. Staff present. Anne Jordan and Nancy Gettinger provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Minutes approved. The minutes from the January meeting were approved.
4. Report on ISBA Mental Health Project: Mary Harper. Judge Harper handed out a copy of "Addendum", a newsletter from the ISBA. Currently, 6 counties are participating in the project and 5 more will be added by the end of the year. Marion County is still not screening. MAYSE-2 screenings in the detention centers have been administered 487 times. Of that, 103 were suicide cautions, 163 were suicide warnings, and 41 were referred for services. The screening is having a positive effect on the detention center staff. ISBA will do a presentation at the IJDA Summit in April. Keeping good data is critical to the project's success. Data will be added to the Quest system; and for those counties without Quest, Laurie Elliott will have and add-on screen to allow her to collect the information through her OJJDP project.
5. HB 1001. Judge Murray reported on the history of negotiations between the DCS and the Judicial branch, referring to Jeff's summary of the legislation. A concern was expressed over the section on the 7-day continuance when the judge disagrees with the placement recommendation. Will it be difficult to re-arrange dockets to accommodate this hearing, and who is responsible for notifying the parties to return in 7 days? Court of Appeals judges have expressed their concern over the expedited appeal section. Another issue was raised regarding the payment for secure detention---DCS is taking all of the county funds that heretofore covered this expense but will not pay for this type of placement. How will counties make up the difference? Justice Sullivan suggested that trial judges should immediately go through their current Family and Children's Fund and pull out everything that will NOT be paid for by the state (e.g. medical care for children in secure detention). Forewarn your county council that these expenses will still need to be covered by the county. Judge Murray reminded the committee that it is their job to educate their colleagues. If judges understand it and do it right, the process is NOT that different from the current practice. The orders will require more detailed findings. The committee agreed to review the forms created by the Juvenile Benchbook Committee.
6. Other legislation: The following bills were briefly reviewed: SB 91, HB 1122, HB 1165, HB 1234, HB 1259, and HB 1290.

7. DCS Director notes. Judges and public defenders are offended that this policy memo of the DCS was sent out statewide to parties outside of the DCS. Magistrate Domine considers it an ex parte communication and will from now on delete any emails she receives of this nature.
8. Other business. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Jordan  
Program Attorney